

March 25, 2009

NOTICE OF 2009-2010 ASSESSMENT RATE FOR THE CALIFORNIA LEAFY GREEN PRODUCTS HANDLER MARKETING AGREEMENT

TO THE SIGNATORY LEAFY GREEN PRODUCTS HANDLER ADDRESSED:

Upon the recommendation of the California Leafy Green Handler Advisory Board, the Department of Food and Agriculture has established the 2009-2010 assessment rate of \$.015 per carton or its equivalent on signatory leafy green products under the California Leafy Green Products Handler Marketing Agreement. The assessment applies to all leafy green products put into commerce by signatory handlers during the period beginning April 1, 2009 through March 31, 2010. Copies of the Department's Order making the assessment rate effective are available upon request. The Board has recommended this rate, which is reduced by one-half cent from last year's rate, because after two years the Board has a reserve that it wants to work down.

The party responsible for assessments on leafy greens regulated by the Agreement is the signatory handler whose name appears on the legal panel on packs as they move into commerce, or if the product is not packed under a signatory trade name, the signatory with the legal responsibility for the product as it moves into commerce is responsible for the assessment.

As provided for in the Agreement, the assessed funds will be used to fund a program to license signatory handlers to certify safe handling, shipment and sales of leafy green products to consumers by requiring them to adopt leafy greens best practices and trace back systems.

The Board will provide assessment forms and instructions for assessments due for leafy green products shipments to signatories. Assessments on the various pack styles of leafy green products sold by signatories will be based on the list of assessment equivalencies adopted by the Board in 2007 and posted on the Board's website. Leafy green assessments should be mailed to the LGMA office at the address listed below. For further information regarding this matter, please contact Scott Horsfall at the LGMA office at 1521 I Street, Sacramento, Ca, 95814, or by telephone at (916) 441-1240, or Glenn Yost at this office.

Sincerely,

Robert Maxie, Branch Chief Marketing Branch

